

Long Term Care Training Program Clarification

Email from Jason Noreen 3.31.20

Jason A Noreen
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Good afternoon,

Good and not-so-good news.

Good – For theory, online/Zoom/teleconference or other online methods are allowed.

Not-so-good – For hands-on skills (lab and clinical), these need to be instructor-led and in-person. This is based on CMS guidance we're receiving for the training programs. What I've heard other schools think about is maybe setting up appointments to go over the skills with a student or two. I'm not sure if the schools will allow that, but that has been thrown out there as an idea that may work.

Based on the CMS guidance, the requirement for a certification is going to be waived during this time so if you have students that want/need to work at a facility, they will be able to work without a certification. This will only apply to nursing homes and home health and actually applies to anyone who wants to work as an uncertified aide. The facilities will provide training and evaluate any existing training. This hasn't been approved by the state yet, but it will likely be approved very soon since the CMS guidance came yesterday.

After everything is said and done, and we get back to "normal", we will allow the uncertified aides to test within 120 days of the end of the waiver.

For question #4 (if my program is approved for 92 hours and my students have logged 75, can we get a waiver), there is no waiver to lower the hours to 75. For those who want to become certified, if they go and work at a facility during this timeframe, they will be eligible to take the state certification exam under the facility's CMS waiver.

I hope this answers your questions adequately. I know it's probably a little disappointing. If anything new develops, it'll get passed on through Lara to share with the tech centers.

Be safe,
Jason

Jason A. Noreen, MBA, MPA
Health Facility Surveyor
Nurse Aide Registry
Oklahoma State Department of Health
1000 NE 10th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1207
Office: (405) 271-4085
Cell: (405) 250-5094
Fax: (405) 271-1130
Website: <http://nar.health.ok.gov>
JasonN@health.ok.gov